

TOWN OF MERRILLVILLE
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
April 10, 2018

CALL TO ORDER: 6:30 p.m.

INVOCATION: Pastor Scott Bruce, Southlake Pentecostal Church

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL: Mr. Spann was absent. All other members were present.

PETITIONS, COMMUNICATIONS, ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS AND REMONSTRATIONS:

Mr. Pettit made a motion to amend the agenda to add Resolution # 18-08 mentioned at a brief workshop in regards to court's computer program purchase Odyssey that Judge Jones is anticipating. Mr. Minchuk seconded the motion. There was no discussion. The motion was approved by a unanimous voice vote.

Mr. Hardaway said the State Board of Accounts Exit Audit is April 17 at 12:00p.m. council members are welcome to attend. Mr. Hardaway mentioned May 15th is the Open House for the Carpenter Union located on Mississippi Street starts at 5:00 pm. Please contact Mrs. Gaza in Town Administration to make a reservation.

Mr. Hardaway said he has contacted the principal from MIS in regards to Municipal Day which be held on May 9th. Students will sit with a council member during a town meeting. The principal said she looks forward to having her 6th grade students participate in this event.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Approval of the Accounts Payable Register Voucher dated April 10, 2018. Approval of Town Council Meeting Minutes of March 27, 2018. Mrs. Uzelac made a motion to approve and was seconded by Mrs. Barron. There was no discussion. The motion was approved by a unanimous voice vote.

STANDING COMMITTEES:

BUDGET & FINANCE:

Mr. Pettit had no report.

PUBLIC WORKS:

Mr. Minchuk gave information about the annual spring clean-up this month. Mr. Minchuk said during the duration of this time the dumpster will be open and available for drop off located at the Street Department. Mr. Minchuk made mentioned of the purchase of the tiger mower and referred to Mr. Spires for an update. Mr. Spires gave details on the tiger mower suggesting a motion from the council to approve the tiger mower purchase. Motion was made by Mrs. Barron to approve and was seconded by Ms. LaMarca. There was no discussion. The motion was approved by a unanimous voice vote.

COUNCIL AFFAIRS:

Ms. LaMarca had no report.

PERSONNEL POLICY & EMPLOYEE BENEFITS:

Mrs. Barron had no report.

PUBLIC SAFETY:

Mrs. Uzelac had no report.

PARKS & RECREATION:

Ms. LaMarca had no report. Mrs. Uzelac met with Jan Orlich and gave information on the plans for Hendricks Park. Mrs. Uzelac said Ms. Orlich will present to the council at the next council meeting the final cost and plans for the park.

ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS:

Mr. Barron had no report.

ELECTIONS & PUBLIC RELATIONS:

Mrs. Uzelac had no report.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT:

Mr. Pettit had no report.

UTILITY LIAISON:

Mr. Spann had no report

ABANDONED PROPERTIES: President Hardaway had no report referred to Mr. Svetanoff for a report. Mr. Svetanoff reported that he received the tax sale certificate and parcels for the Old Mill. Mr. Svetanoff said he will be sending notices to all interested lien holders to acquire a tax deed to do necessary work. Mr. Svetanoff thanked Lake County Commissioner, Klye Allen and Commissioner Real Estate Attorney, Tramel Raggs for all their help with the matter. Mr. Hardaway mentioned that the CBGC money is to expire on June 15. Mr. Hardaway said Mr. Spires has submitted a letter to Mr. Brown, Director of Economic Development of Lake County for an extension till September and Mr. Brown has consented to it. Mr. Hardaway requested for Mr. Spires to send out request proposals so that once they receive the deed they can work on the property. Mr. Pettit requested for Mr. Svetanoff to read the amount spent to acquire the properties. Mr. Pettit thanked Mr. Svetanoff for a job well done and requested Mrs. Gaza to put a letter together to thank both commissioners for their help in the matter. Some discussion followed.

GENERAL ORDERS:

FIRST READING ORDINANCES:

Ord. 18-03:

An Ordinance of the Town of Merrillville, Lake County, Indiana, creating budget line items within the Police Department Special Grant Fund budget. Mrs. Barron made a motion to approve the ordinance and was seconded by Mr. Pettit. There was no discussion. The motion carried by a 6-0 roll call vote.

Ord. 18-04:

An Ordinance of the Town of Merrillville, Lake County, Indiana, creating budget line items within the Town of Merrillville Motor Vehicle Highway fund budget. Mrs. Barron made a motion to approve the ordinance and was seconded by Mrs. Uzelac. There was no discussion. The motion carried by a 6-0 roll call vote.

Ord. 18-05:

An Ordinance amending Town Ordinance No: 17-30, being, "An Ordinance of the Town Council of the Town of Merrillville, Indiana amending the municipal code to adopt by reference the 2014 Indiana Fire Code for enforcement by the Merrillville Fire Department and Merrillville Town Court and prescribing/assessing civil penalties for certain ordinance and town code violations, and repealing all town code sections and ordinances, or parts thereof, in conflict herewith. Mrs. Barron made a motion to approve the ordinance and was seconded by Mr. Pettit. Some discussion followed. The motion carried by a 6-0 roll call vote.

SECOND READING ORDINANCES:

None

RESOLUTIONS:

Res. 18-07:

A Resolution of the Town of Merrillville, Lake County, Indiana transferring monies of the 2018 budget within the Motor Vehicle Highway Fund budget. Mr. Pettit made a motion to approve the resolution and was seconded by Mrs. Barron. There was no discussion. The motion was approved by a unanimous voice vote.

Res. 18-08:

A Resolution of the Town Council of the Town of Merrillville Indiana to adopt state wide Case Management system called Odyssey. Mr. Pettit made a motion to approve the resolution and was seconded by Ms. LaMarca. There was no discussion. The motion was approved by a unanimous voice vote.

BZA ACTIONS:

Petitioner: Ernest & Shirley Harper
Owner: Ernest & Shirley Harper
Request: Special exception approval
Purpose: Proposed dine in & drive thru restaurant
Location: 6740 Broadway
Zoning: C-2 Community Commercial
Case #: Z9E5-0318

Sheila Shine provided the Staff Report for the request. Ms. LaMarca made a motion to approve and was seconded by Mrs. Barron. There was some discussion. The motion was approved by a unanimous voice vote.

Petitioner: Donnisha Wheeler & Lashun Taylor
Owner: Lake County Trust #3318
Request: Special exception approval
Purpose: Proposed dine in bakery and milk shake shop
Location: 7992 Broadway
Zoning: C-3 Highway Commercial
Case #: Z10E6-0318

Sheila Shine provided the Staff Report for the request. A representative on behalf of the petitioner was present for questions. Mrs. Barron made a motion to approve and was seconded by Mr. Pettit. There was some discussion. The motion was approved by a unanimous voice vote.

Petitioner: Dennis K. & Martha A. Coleman
Owner: Dennis K. Coleman
Request: Variance of use approval
Purpose: To allow a boarding house
Location: 6371 Vermont Street
Zoning: R-2, Residential
Case #: Z11uV3-0318

Sheila Shine provided the Staff Report for the request. A representative on behalf of the petitioner was present for questions. Mr. Svetanoff made a motion to deny Variance of use concerning the property’s location with 6 months to relocate seconded by Mrs. Barron. There was some discussion. The motion was approved by a unanimous voice vote.

OLD BUSINESS:
None

NEW BUSINESS:
None

PUBLIC COMMENT:
All public comment is recorded on an audio file and kept on file in the Clerk-Treasurer’s Office at Town Hall.

- ANNOUNCEMENTS:**
- State Board of Accounts Exit Audit, April 17, 2018 at 12:00 p.m.
 - Town Council workshop, April 17, 2018 at 6:00 p.m.
 - Environmental Resource Commission meeting, April 19, 2018, at 2:00 p.m.
 - Town Council meeting, April 24, 2018, at 6:30 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT: Mrs. Barron made a motion to adjourn and was seconded by Mr. Pettit.

Richard Hardaway, President

Eugene Guernsey, Clerk-Treasurer